

Science Fiction (Sci-Fi) or SF

- I. A genre of fiction set in some imaginary time or place, usually the future, near or far, where society is either better or worse than the author's known society
 - A. Utopian novels –
 - 1. Society/life is better than reality
 - 2. Genre is named after Sir Thomas Moore's *Utopia*
 - B. Dystopian (anti-utopia) novels – life is worse than reality
 - 1. H.G. Wells' *The War of the Worlds*
 - 2. George Orwell's *1984*
 - 3. Aldous Huxley's *A Brave New World*
 - 4. Lois Lowry's *The Giver*
 - 5. Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*
- II. Subjects and themes should not violate what is known to science, speculation should be presented in a rational manner
 - A. Imagined civilizations
 - B. Travel in space
 - C. Marvelous beings and inventions
- III. Concerned with the impact of innovations/technology on humanity
- IV. Golden Age of SF (1939-1949) – primarily a magazine genre
- V. Silver Age of SF (1950-1962) – less science, more literary, psychological, sociological content
- VI. Significant Authors
 - A. Jules Verne (French) – regarded as the father of SF
 - 1. *Journey to the Center of the Earth*
 - 2. *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*
 - B. H.G. Wells (English) – science themes with concern about social consequences (Scientific Romance)
 - 1. *The Time Machine*
 - 2. *The Island of Dr. Moreau*
- VII. Subgenres (related to SF)
 - A. Fantasy
 - B. Gothic
 - C. Future War Fiction
 - D. Lost Race Fiction
 - E. Scientific Romance